

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 13087 081644Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07  
SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 FEA-01 /117 W  
-----035198 082248Z /70

R 081641Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6965

UNCLAS LONDON 13087

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ENRG, UK  
SUBJECT: A NORTH SEA OIL FIELD BEGINS TO RUN DRY

1. THE SUNDAY AND MONDAY PAPERS CARRIED STORIES ABOUT THE SHARP REDUCTION IN PREDICTIONS FOR TOTAL PRODUCTION FROM THE ARGYLL FIELD -- WHICH PRODUCED BRITAIN'S FIRST NORTH SEA OIL IN JUNE 1975. AFTER MEETINGS LAST WEEK BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND HAMILTON BROTHERS, THE OPERATORS, IT BECAME KNOWN THAT WATER ENCROACHMENT INTO THE TWO WELLS IN THE FIELD HAS CAUSED HAMILTON TO REVISE DOWNWARD THE TOTAL RECOVERABLE RESERVES FROM ABOUT 35 MILLION BARRELS TO 22 MILLION BARRELS.

2. THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY HAS POINTED OUT THAT ARGYLL'S ORIGINAL ESTIMATED PRODUCTION WAS "INFINITESIMAL" COMPARED TO TOTAL NORTH SEA OUTPUT. IT IS ALSO NOTED THAT THE ONLY NORTH SEA FIELD THAT BEARS A CLOSE RESEMBLANCE GEOLOGICALLY TO ARGYLL IS AUK. HOWEVER, THE AUK FIELD HAS BEEN PRODUCING BETTER THAN EXPECTED.

BREWSTER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** OILS, OIL FIELDS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 08-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LONDON13087  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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